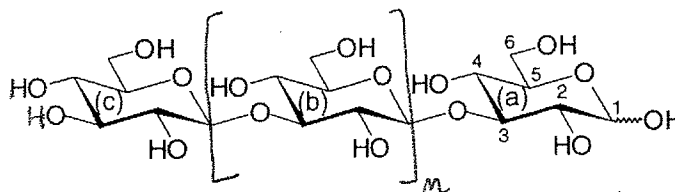


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A therapeutic method consisting essentially of the administration of an amount of oligo- β -(1,3)-glucan and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, to a human being or to a warm-blooded animal suffering from ~~a disease selected from the group consisting of a cancer selected from the group consisting of breast cancer, lung cancer, oesophagus cancer, stomach cancer, intestinal cancer or colon cancer, a viral disease, a bacterial disease, a fungal disease, a disease of the immune system, an auto-immune disease or disease related to a deficiency of immunostimulation~~ in an amount which is effective to treat the disease and said cancer, and

wherein the oligo- β -(1,3)-glucan is a compound presenting the following formula (1):



in which $n=2$ or $n=3$,

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2-4. (Cancelled).

5. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the administration of oligo- β -(1,3)-glucan stimulates NK cells in the human being or warm-blooded animal.

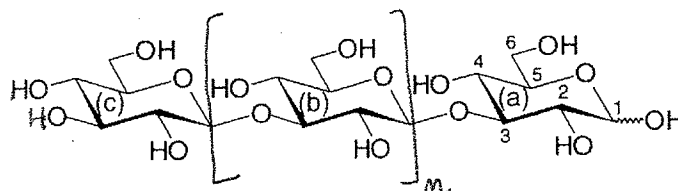
6. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the administration of oligo- β -(1,3)-glucan stimulates the production of TNF- α in the human being or the warm-blooded animal.

7. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the composition is administered intravenously, intraperitoneally or orally to the patient.

8-9. (Cancelled).

10. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the composition is in a form selected from the group consisting of a solution, suspension, syrup, tablet, capsule, injections, ointment, pulmonary, spray.

11. (Withdrawn) Pharmaceutical composition under the form of a solution, suspension, spray, aerosol, tablet capsule, injection, ointment, pulmonary aerosol comprising a therapeutically effective amount of oligo-1-3- β -glucan of formula (1)



in which $n=1$ to 7, preferably $n=2$ or $n=3$, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and a pharmaceutical acceptable carrier, said composition being free of any other glucan.